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DIDSBURY REVIEW

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www.didsburyreview.ca

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Recruitment numbers trouble fire department

BY SYLVIA COLE
Review Staff

The number of volunteer firefighters in Didsbury is dropping and the department could be stretched thin of resources unless new recruits step up, said deputy fire chief Bob Wright.

This year the department is staffed about 30 but five members are slated to leave later this year. So far, only one person has stepped forward for recruitment.

"I've been a firefighter for the last 34 years and I'd say it's been in the last three or four years that we've started having trouble filling the seats on the fire truck because people aren't here," he said explaining that a lot of peo-

ple have started travelling for work or commuting every day.

The department's biggest problem is having enough staff to respond to daytime calls. Wright said Didsbury gets 200 calls a year, or four per week.

"Of our 30 members, we might only have six or ten people that can respond to a daytime call... we're not properly manned to handle the incidents," said Wright, who said a structural fire demands at least 12 fighters on scene initially. He said the department draws on mutual aid partners in Olds and Carstairs, but then they're draining resources from other towns as well. The low numbers also pose a safety threat to the understaffed group, he added.

"It's starting to become a bit of an issue with daytime calls. As we went through the first part of the recession a lot of employers started to claw back and they didn't want their folk to leave anymore."

BRAD TOLHURST
Firefighter

"It's starting to become a bit of an issue with daytime calls. As we went through the first part of the recession a lot of employers started to claw back and they didn't want their folk to leave anymore. As an employee I very much understand that but it doesn't prevent the fact that we still need to fill the seats," said firefighter Brad Tolhurst, who said the

need for extra staff is important so there's enough bodies responding to calls.

Tolhurst explained that volunteers respond to all types of calls from a fire, to a motor vehicle accident and sometimes to back up EMS when they're out of town on a call.

Wright said ideally eight to 10 volunteers will step forward, but estimates he'll

see about four. He said when training hits sometimes things people didn't think about crop up, such as having to drive a big truck or standing high up on a ladder.

"Sometimes it ends up it's not for them," he said.

The department is accepting applications from anyone over 18 years of age, who can pick up applications at the fire hall on Wednesday nights from 6:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

President of Alberta Fire Chiefs Association said recruitment and retainment is a growing problem across the province and country.

"People just don't have time to volunteer. When you leave for work in the morning at 5 a.m. and you get home at 6 and you're

not really interested in going out in the community at night," said Brian Cornforth of what tends to be typical in communities close to larger cities.

The association completed a study this year along with the minister of municipal affairs and Volunteer Alberta to find ways to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters.

Cornforth said finding ways to recognize volunteers and promote them within the community would go a long way. He also said providing some sort of benefit to volunteers whether through bursaries offered for children of fighters or paying for their licence plates are other ways to give something back to the volunteers.



Noel West/Didsbury Review

ROCKIN' CURLER - A competitor throws a rock at the 17th annual Didsbury Farm and Ranch Spiel held the Didsbury Curling Club January 3-8. Overall winners of the spiel went to Rich Phillips Jr. team with players Al Crawford, Ed Crebs and Ella Bishop who beat out Clarence Martin, Dave Watley, Danny Martin and Les Charles in the A event finals. Thirty-six teams turned out for the event.



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Colts win over weekend

BY SYLVIA COLE
Review Staff

The Mountainview Colts secured a win against Stettler Lightning Sunday afternoon giving the team a needed "confidence boost," said coach Gord Olsen.

The first two periods of the game, both teams were unable to secure a goal. In the third period the Colts shot the first goal of the night, quickly followed with two more, ending the game with a 3-0 win.

"It was a great overall team effort," said Olsen of the Colts' second win against the Stettler team. "Some of our new guys scored tonight and it's always great when

they're able to get the game," he said. The Colts' game Saturday against Airdrie Thunder will be rescheduled due to weather and poor driving conditions. The team won't play this week but will be back on home ice January 18 to play against Three Hills at 7 p.m. in the Memorial Complex.



Sylvia Cole/Didsbury Review
Mountain View Colts played against Stettler Sunday night and won 3-0

Accused invasion suspect agrees to remain in custody

BY DAN SINGLETON
Review Staff

One of two men charged with attempted murder and aggravated assault following a home invasion in Didsbury in November has consented to his own detention.

Jesse Boyd Beach, 18, was in Didsbury provincial court on Thursday for his bail hearing. Instead of seeking bail, Beach agreed to remain in custody pending a March 4 court appearance.

Beach has elected to be tried in Court of Queen's Bench without a preliminary hearing, said Crown prosecutor Roy Smith.

Beach will be in Court of Queen's Bench in Calgary on March 4 for arraignment, when he could be asked to enter a plea.

However, Beach could appear in court earlier than March 4, with the consent of Crown and defence, to enter a plea, said Smith.

Beach and co-accused Scott Lockhart Demolitor, 18, also face charges of assault with a weapon, break and enter, possession of a prohibited weapon and disguise with intent.

Demolitor, who also remains in custody, will be back in court on Feb. 7 for a bail hearing.

Both men are being held in the Calgary Remand Centre.

Like Beach, Demolitor has not entered any pleas.

Shortly after 6 p.m. on Nov. 21, two masked men entered a home in the 2000 Block of 24th Avenue in Didsbury and attacked three people in the residence with a hammer and a hatchet, causing severe injuries, say police.

One of the victims spent nine days in hospital with head and facial injuries.

Four other people in the residence received minor injuries when they were hit with bear spray.

TOWN OF DIDSBURY

PUBLIC MEETINGS & NOTICES

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING:
Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers

MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION:
Wednesday, January 26, 2011 at 4:30 pm in Council Chambers

On January 14, 2011 the Town office will be closed from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm.

ROLLOUT CART PICK UP SCHEDULE
JANUARY 2011

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SPORTS FOR SHORTS - Looking for an exciting program for preschoolers? Sports For Shorts explores sports like soccer, basketball and other fun indoor activities - all geared towards 3-5 year olds. This 6-week program will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room Monday nights from January 17 - February 21 from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Cost is \$38.00 for 6 sessions. Call Didsbury Neighborhood Place at 403.335.8719.

RED CROSS BABYSITTING - The Town of Didsbury is offering a Babysitting Course on Saturday, January 22 from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. For ages 11+. Cost of this course is \$55.00. Call Didsbury Neighborhood Place at 403.335.8719.

MOTHER'S UNITE SALE - The Town of Didsbury is hosting our annual Mother's Unite Sale. Call to book a table for \$15.00 and sell your gently used children's clothing, toys, strollers, etc. (children's items only). From 9:00 am - 2:00 pm on Saturday, January 22, 2011. Call Didsbury Neighborhood Place at 403.335.8719.

For more information or to register, call DNP at 403.335.8719

DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBERS

Town Office: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm 403.335.3391

Public Works: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm 403.335.8343

Town of Didsbury after hours pager 403.507.3624

Planning & Infrastructure 403.335.3391

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Rosebud Valley Campground 403.335.8578

Chamber of Commerce Office 403.335.3265

Library 403.335.3142

Didsbury Museum 403.335.9295

It is time to license your pets with the Town of Didsbury for 2011. If you register your pet before January 31, 2011, the cost is only \$10.00. After that the cost is \$15.00 for neutered/spayed pets and \$30.00 for un-neutered/spayed pets. Please remember to let us know if your pet is either deceased or no longer living at your place of residence so that we can keep our information up to date and accurate.

You could be fined \$115.00 if your pet is not licensed with the Town of Didsbury. The fine can be issued either through complaints or if your pet is picked up/spotted by a Town of Didsbury Peace Officer. Please register your pet to prevent any possible chance of fines being incurred.

Also remember that you are only legally permitted to have up to 2 dogs and 3 cats in a place of residence within the Town limits.

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Tech toys one reason for spike in harassment

BY SYLVIA COLE
Review Staff

Reports of harassment are up sevenfold this year from 2009, an increase community resource workers said is due in part to the technological toys.

Didsbury RCMP compiled statistics from the past year that show in 2009 three reports of harassment were made. In 2010 the number jumped to 21.

Complaints are typically from people who are receiving several calls, texts or messages from social networking sites such as Facebook from someone who's been asked

to stop, but hasn't, said police.

"There has been a drastic increase in that type of behaviour, and at a young age, we see it all the time," said family school wellness worker Janet Cornell, who works with children and teenagers in Carstairs.

But complaints aren't just coming from teens—the reports come from across the board of ages, police added.

And the effects constant harassment can have on an individual's mental health can be devastating, explains Trina Lonsberry, program coordinator with Peer Support Services for

Abused Women.

Lonsberry, based in Olds, offers support to women who have been abused but also goes into schools and educates students on issues such as cyberbullying and cyberstalking.

"It's getting easier to engage in because people don't feel that same connection ... they're not seeing their face—that punch in the stomach look," said Lonsberry of one reason harassment is on the rise. She said negative self-esteem, fear and depression are examples of effects harassment has on someone.

"There's almost no

escape—they can harass you at your dinner table by sending out a text," she said. "If it happens it needs to be reported right away because it can quickly turn into stalking."

She said finding ways to send messages or texts is a good idea and said there are websites such as cyberbullying.ca that offer advice on how to keep records of the harassment and also how to block certain phone numbers from a phone.

"It's easy to do with technology. You just have to write something and press send. But it's illegal to harass someone," she said.

Housing sales plunge in 2010

BY SYLVIA COLE
Review Staff

First-time homebuyers could strike out in Didsbury and Carstairs this year with housing prices dropping to what real estate agents are calling "more reasonable" prices.

With less homes sold in 2010 than witnessed in the previous three years, sale prices have slumped as people try harder to sell.

"There's less greed and more common sense," said realtor Mel Crothers of the reaction to 74 homes sold in Didsbury last year, a decrease of eight from last year and 60 since the housing boom in 2007.

This summer Didsbury had highs of 88 houses on the market. Today there's 50 but only about five per cent of houses from the summer were sold, forcing housing prices down.

"You can see more rentals are out on the market now. People are getting frustrated because they can't sell," said Crothers.

The year ended with the average home in Didsbury sitting at \$231,846 roughly \$60,000 less than the average home in Carstairs.

And business in Carstairs isn't any better. This past year, 62 houses were sold in town, without a single sale in the month of

October.

But prices still remain high, compared to Didsbury with 28 homes within the \$300,000 range and eight over \$400,000. In Didsbury only 10 houses are in the \$300,000 range and nothing over \$400,000.

Crothers attributes the number of newly built house in Carstairs and its closeness to Calgary that give the Carstairs market higher prices.

But it's the houses in the lower price range that he expects to see sell in both Carstairs and Didsbury.

"The short term upside will be as the job market increases and young families will be back working

again and looking into getting a home," said Crothers, who expects the increase in activity on oil patches to drive up numbers of first-time homebuyers later this year.

"This is a great time for young couples—a great time for a deal," he said anticipating that Carstairs and Didsbury could see numbers levelling out at the end of 2011 to what was seen in 2008.

Last year's low sale numbers were similar to trends seen all over Alberta. Numbers revealed from the Calgary Real Estate Board last week showed single family home sales in the city were the lowest in

2010 in more than a decade.

"Undoubtedly housing markets in Alberta and Calgary underperformed in 2010, as sales recoveries did not materialize as forecasted," said Diane Scott, president of Calgary Real Estate Board.

"Employment and net-migration have been slower to pick up here in Calgary—and these are key drivers of our housing market," she said.

Scott anticipates inventory levels will adjust in 2011 resulting in a more gradual return to a more balanced housing market but first the winter blues have to pass.



Sylvia Cole/Didsbury Review

Housing sales were down in 2010—the lowest numbers recorded in the past four years.

Drunk driving decreases in Didsbury

BY SYLVIA COLE
Didsbury Review

People in Didsbury may be thinking twice before getting behind a wheel when impaired, reports show.

An annual report compiled by RCMP tallied 50 impaired driving charges for 2010, down from 73 in 2009.

"It looks as though the public is recognizing the importance of having designated drivers and lining up ways of getting home other than drinking and driving," said Sgt. Jeff Jacobson.

Bringing a driving buddy or heading out on foot is something local bar own-

ers have noticed more and more as well.

"There definitely seems to be a lot of people walking home instead of driving," said Brandy May, manager of Fireside Place and Barley's Pub in Carstairs. "It's something we do with the servers though too—we ask and make sure people have a way home. Sometimes we'll drive them home too because we live nearby, it's a pretty small town," she said.

Last month, police set up six checkpoints within the jurisdiction at various roadways and highways. Police were stationed at checkpoints for periods of 45 minutes to several hours

and checked in excess of 200 cars.

Seven violation tickets were handed out for a variety of offenses and three 24-hour suspensions were made, but there weren't any impaired drivers detected.

"This is a positive sign," said Jacobson.

Other improvements from 2009 include a decrease in theft of over \$5,000, a number that's been going down in the past few years, explained Jacobson.

In 2009 there were 27 and in 2010 there were 22. Mischief reports are also down from 161 in 2009 to 140 in 2010 and break and enter down from 47 to 44.

There was a rise in drug charges from 37 to 63.

"This was a priority focus for us this year," said Jacobson. Numbers that went up included threats from 28 in 2009 to 33, theft under \$5,000 from 147 to 157 and more missing people, from 16 to 23. Jacobson explained missing people reports are typically youth who've left home and most time return in the next day.

The information compiled is presented to councils in Carstairs and Didsbury and the advisory committee. Priorities for RCMP in 2011 will be determined later this year when the fiscal year is up, explained Jacobson.

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Police briefs

BY SYLVIA COLE
Review Staff

Hit and run

A Pontiac Grand Am was hit by an unknown vehicle on New Year's Day near West Hill Close. The left side of the car and mirror were damaged. The hit and run occurred between 7:30 p.m. and 9:40 p.m. Given the time of day, police are seeking any witnesses that may have heard anything around that time.

Two cases of tail light theft

Tail lights from two separate vehicles were stolen sometime overnight January 2 and the following morning. One set was taken from a truck on the 1500 block of 16th Street. Tail lights were also taken from a truck on the 2100 block of 17th Avenue. Police continue to investigate.

Christmas décor stolen

Last month \$300 worth of lawn decorations were stolen from a property on the 2300 block of 21st Street in Didsbury. Pieces of a deer decoration were located down the street but inflatable lawn ornaments, that were also grabbed, weren't located. The theft occurred sometime between midnight and 8 a.m. on December 29th.

Window smashed

The back window of a minivan was smashed out on January 2 sometime between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m. the next morning in Cremona, in what police said appears to be the result of mischief. Nothing was taken from the vehicle.

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Opinion

Commentary

Time for action on syphilis rise

DAN SINGLETON



A newly released report into the prevalence of syphilis in Alberta has found a shocking rise in the number of cases of the potentially life-threatening sexually transmitted disease.

The Syphilis Outbreak in Alberta report paints a troubling picture of a disease making deep inroads among a broad spectrum of Alberta's population. Overall, the number of reported cases has jumped from 21 in 2001 to more than 260 in 2009.

With the ultimate responsibility for the provision of health care to all residents, the Stelmach government needs to step up to the plate and ensure that this issue is addressed without delay.

Syphilis is a bacterial infection that if left untreated can cause severe damage to the brain, heart, blood vessels and bones. Most shockingly, when passed from mothers to unborn babies the disease can lead to miscarriage, stillbirth or death within days of birth.

"Alberta continues to experience a sustained outbreak of syphilis which shows no signs of abating," the report states, "and in the past few years has spread outside known high-risk groups to the general population."

"The urgent need to interrupt this outbreak is compounded by the occurrence of babies being born with congenital syphilis, a situation that is completely preventable."

For its part, the Stelmach government-appointed Alberta Health Services Board has announced plans for a provincewide public relations campaign aimed at increasing awareness of both the syphilis danger and preventive measures.

Bringing this serious health issue into the political arena, the official opposition has been quick to claim that the rise of syphilis should be placed squarely at the feet of the Stelmach Tories.

"This is another major failure of the Stelmach administration's management of public health," says Liberal leader Dr. David Swann. "Innocent babies are dying or being left permanently disabled. This should be a top priority for the premier, but he has allowed this report to be quietly swept under the carpet."

"It's shameful. It's like Alberta is trapped in the dark ages when it comes to this disease."

While Dr. Swann's 'dark ages' comment is probably overstating the matter, there can be no question that this shocking rise of syphilis in Alberta is a serious health issue that should and must be addressed without delay. To allow the current upward trend to continue is clearly in no one's best interest.

"Breaking the chain of this syphilis infection will require concerted immediate and long-term actions," says Dr. Andre Corriveau, Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health.

Hopefully the upcoming Alberta Health Services Board awareness campaign will convince more Albertans to do what is necessary to stop the spread of this insidious disease.

BOBBOZO'S WEATHER OR NOT...



Letter to the editor

Header

Re. "Power line bid not what it appears"

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) wishes to address misinformation that appeared in your December 14th publication in a Letter to the Editor from Joe Anglin.

As the independent, not-for-profit organization that plans and operates the electricity grid for the benefit of all Albertans, the AESO is mandated under the Government of Alberta's Transmission Regulation to ensure that the transmission system is built to effectively operate congestion-free. An unconstrained grid provides certainty to those who invest in new generation projects that they will have the ability to move their electricity to Alberta households and businesses. It also gives those in other industries the confidence to do business in the province, secure in the knowledge that power will be there when they need it.

To meet this mandate, the AESO's team of engineers, economists and planners analyze electricity consumption patterns in every area of the province and integrate data from multiple sources including the Conference Board of Canada, Canadian Energy Research Institute and Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers to determine where the demand for electricity will grow, where and how much generation is required to meet that demand, and what additional transmission infrastructure is required.

Current forecasts show the system requires both expansion and reinforcement. Our existing transmission system, in various locations, is running close to capacity with congestion on the lines. Congestion

adversely affects the price of electricity delivered to Albertans and upgrades to the system are needed now in order to preserve the overall reliability of the electricity grid.

Our provincial grid has not seen a major investment in the last 20 years. Yet, over this same time period, Alberta's annual GDP has risen from \$64 billion to nearly \$292 billion, population has increased 45 per cent from about 2.5 million to 3.6 million, and our peak demand of electricity nearly doubled from 5,600 MW to 10,200 MW. Demand is forecasted to nearly double over the next 20 years, increasing by over three per cent a year until 2028 and beyond. That's a rate we have seen over the last 20 years and is equal to adding two cities the size of Red Deer to the power system each year.

Approximately 11,500 MW of new generation is needed over the next 20 years to ensure we have enough power to meet the needs of Albertans. As part of our mandate, the AESO connects any and all generation approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission, regardless of the type or location of the generation. While the AESO supports the development of local generation, we still need to connect it to a strong transmission grid in order for the market to work in a fair and efficient manner and for competitively priced electricity to be available to consumers everywhere in Alberta.

The AESO is committed to building a transmission system that is cost effective and meets our regulatory mandate. It is important to point out that cost estimates for transmission projects identified in

the AESO's Long-term Transmission System Plan are refined as projects move forward and technical scoping, engineering studies, stakeholder consultation and additional in-depth analysis are completed. Our planning function balances cost with the goal of achieving an unconstrained transmission system. To manage cost impact, we are introducing a Competitive Procurement process to get the best value for all Albertans. We also use other cost reduction tools as appropriate. They range from staging of projects to life extension of an existing project.

The Heartland Transmission Development Project was identified as one of four Critical Transmission Infrastructure (CTI) projects and approved under the Government of Alberta's Electric Utilities Act in the fall of 2009. Reasons for the increase to the original estimated cost of the Heartland project include expansion in scope and additional commodity and land costs incurred by the Transmission Facility Owner. Ultimately, it is the Alberta Utilities Commission's role to ensure the costs remain prudent.

Transmission infrastructure is a public good that must be available in advance of need; Alberta's quality of life and economic well being depends on it. The AESO encourages you to visit our public engagement website for more information about the need for transmission upgrades in our province. Please go to www.poweringalberta.com to learn more.

Shan Bhattacharya,
Vice-President, Transmission
Alberta Electric System Operator

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Didsbury Rambler Home Games for January

Come out and Cheer!

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JAN 08 — 1:00 Tyke 3, 2:45 Novice 2, 5:00 Bantam T5
JAN 09 — 8:00 Tyke 2, 9:45 Tyke 3, 11:30 Atom 2, 1:30 Pee wee T4
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JAN 21 — 8:30 Atom 1
JAN 22 — 1:00 Tyke 3, 2:45 Atom 2, 5:00 Midget T5
JAN 23 — 8:00 Tyke 1, 9:45 Novice 1, 11:30 Atom 1, 1:45 Bantam T2
JAN 29 — 1:00 Novice 2, 2:45 Pee wee T1
JAN 30 — 8:00 Tyke 2, 9:30 Novice 1, 11:15 Atom 2, 1:30 Pee wee T5

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In and Around Didsbury

Marge St Clair

Wed., Jan. 12

The potluck dinner at the 5-0 Club will start at 12:30 p.m. Bring your favourite meat dish, veggies, salad or dessert and enjoy.

Thurs., Jan. 13

The doors will open at 1:30 p.m. at Eldon Foote Hall for all seniors of the town and districts to assemble and enjoy the various activities that the Seniors Support Group is putting together. Refreshments served.

Thurs., Jan. 13

A Pharmacist will be speaking on prescription awareness, drug abuse, etc. at the Eldon Foote Hall. All seniors welcome after 1:30 pm refreshments served.

Fri., Jan. 14

You are welcome to come to the Elks Hall to play cribbage. Games start at 7 p.m. Coffee and goodies served.

Sat., Jan. 15 & Sun., Jan. 16

The Mountainview Colts will host the Three Hills Thrashers at 8 p.m. in the Didsbury Arena. On Sunday, the game against the Cochrane Generals will start at 4 p.m. Your support will be duly appreciated.

Tues., Jan. 25

The annual general meeting of the Rosebud Health Foundation will start at 7 p.m. at the Didsbury Hospital in the Education Conference Room (downstairs). Phone Sharon (403) 335-7626 for more info.

Wed., Jan. 26

Connie's Foot Care will be at the 5-0 Club. To make an appointment, please phone (403) 861-7826.

Wed., Jan. 26

The Didsbury Museum is having "Coffee and Conversation" from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. today. The guest speaker will be Ray Arie from the Didsbury Radio Control Fun Flyers Association. This is a great organization and they have a wonderful display of flying them out at the Airfield NW of town on July 1.

Thurs., Jan. 27, Fri., Jan. 28, Sat., Jan. 29

The Men's Open Bonspiel will be played at the Didsbury Curling Rink. Sign up while you are there curling or phone Darren (403) 335-9107. You are most welcome to come and watch.

Theatre Didsbury, although later in starting with their new comedy "Anyone for Breakfast?" has many dates reserved already. The cast includes Sydnie Gilbert, Tracie Skeet-Brook, Wanda Braybrook, Arden Whittleton, Rick Phillips Sr., and Gary Edwards and the director is Derek Lewis.

Their schedule so far is as follows:

Sat., Jan. 22 - Torrington, Torrington Lioness Club, Bonnie Schultz (403) 631-3706.

Fri., Feb. 4 - Westcott Hall, Sarah Konschuk (403) 335-4398.

Sat., Mar. 12 - Cottonwood Hall, Ag Society, Blanche Cunningham (403) 227-2428.

Sat., Mar. 26 - Multi Purpose Room - Didsbury Complex, Didsbury Curling Club Pub Nite, Amanda Gosselin (403) 335-8064.

Sat., Apr. 16 - Bentley, Library Society, Valerie Anderson.

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Weather conditions shorten JV tournament

BY SYLVIA COLE
Review Staff

Didsbury Dragons hosted JV boys and girls tournaments this weekend that brought in teams from Three Hills, Rimbey, Crossfield and Strathmore. The boys started out with a loss against Rimbey 44-67 but went on to win against W.G. Murdoch 52-19.

"Our game against Rimbey was a two-point game with eight minutes and 50 seconds to go in the fourth quarter," said coach Chris Overwater, who said Rimbey went on to beat the Dragons by 25 points. "It was within our reach but their size and strength got us in the end," he said.

"It was good experience to go up against a higher level of play. The kids' level of play improved and they're starting to look like a good team out there," he said.

Their next game against Holy Cross was cut short because extreme weather and driving conditions had the team from Strathmore wanting to head home sooner rather than later, explained Dragons' coach.

Rimbey ended up winning the tournament. Didsbury had one win and one loss as did High River, and Crossfield lost all three.

"Crossfield is in our league and we beat them so

that brought a confidence boost to the team," said Overwater.

The girls team played as well over the weekend and lost all three games but Overwater said they played hard, and coach Colleen Wassmer was a huge help in the organization of the tournament.

Dragons boys head to Canmore this weekend for another tournament, mostly 3A teams.

"This will be a tough tournament but it will give them a chance to develop their skills. We want to win the league and play zones but to have a chance to do that we have to go to the harder tournaments to get there."



Noel West/Didsbury Review

Didsbury Dragons player Dylan Wallace drives to the hoop over a WG Murdoch Trojans player during their game at Didsbury High School on Jan. 8.

VICTIMS DESERVE TO BE HEARD

Have your say on Alberta's victims of crime legislation

Fill out the online survey at <http://bit.ly/VictimsSurvey> and have your voice heard on the victims of crime legislation, including the financial benefits program.

Public consultation is part of a scheduled review of the legislation to ensure it continues to work effectively for victims of crime.

This year, Alberta is providing \$11 million to victims programs and \$14 million in financial benefits paid directly to victims of crime.

The deadline for participating in the survey is January 27, 2011.

For more information on Alberta's victims of crime legislation and programs for victims of crime, visit victims.alberta.ca

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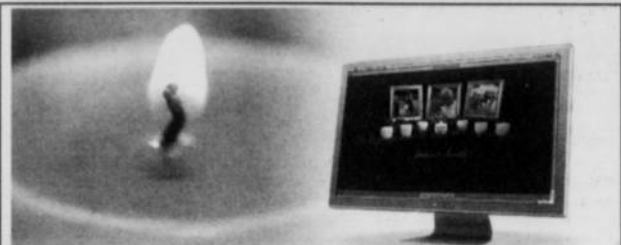
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100. Obituaries 100. Obituaries 100. Obituaries 190. Announcements 190. Announcements 3350. Wood/Coal/Fuel 3350. Wood/Coal/Fuel



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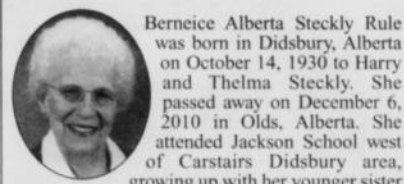


Richard Pahl



Ken Sherrick

Berneice Alberta Steckly Rule



Berneice Alberta Steckly Rule was born in Didsbury, Alberta on October 14, 1930 to Harry and Thelma Steckly. She passed away on December 6, 2010 in Olds, Alberta. She attended Jackson School west of Carstairs Didsbury area, growing up with her younger sister Yvonne and living near all her Steckly cousins until her parents moved them to Calgary in 1940. She graduated from Crescent Heights High School in Calgary, she was active in First Baptist Church CGIT, and was a Girl Scout leader. The family moved to Edmonton in 1948 where Berneice graduated from McTavish Business College. She met Ross Stanley Rule while working in a record store mistaking him for someone else, and that led to their marriage on August 18, 1951 at First Baptist Church in Edmonton. She and Ross moved to Calgary in 1952 where she worked as a secretary for several years. With the move to Calgary came the children - daughter, Shelley Maureen, in 1958 and son, Gordon Jay, in 1961. The family then moved to the San Francisco Bay area in 1964, ultimately settling in San Jose, California. She was active in several churches as a pianist/organist and secretary. Berneice was employed as a school secretary, health aide, and teacher's assistant in several school districts for 19 years.

Berneice was a past Senior Counsellor of the United Commercial Travelers of America Ladies Auxiliary. Berneice loved to knit and crochet, learning as a child and supplying blankets during WWII. She played tennis in her younger years and enjoyed gardening and bird watching. She and Ross moved to Didsbury in 1990 where she was the choir leader at the United Church, sang with the 5-0 singers, and a member of the Westcott Women's Institute. In 1997, they moved to Fairfield, Ohio to be closer to family. In 2002, they moved back to Didsbury, as Ross was really retiring. Berneice rejoined the 5-0 singers, became active in the Didsbury Hospital Auxiliary, and joined the Red Hatters.

Berneice always had a love of music and had a piano in her home and at times an organ. Almost all family gatherings included the piano and a love of music that she passed along to her children and shared with many other family members and friends.

Berneice was predeceased by her husband, Ross Rule, sister, Yvonne Steckly Williams, father, Harry Jason Steckly, and mother, Thelma Levagood Steckly, is survived by her children, Shelley Owens and Gordon Rule (Carrie), grandchildren Joshua Owens (Wendy), Joey Owens, Ashley Rule, and Adam Rule, four great grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and special friends Art, Diane, Rejean, and Rita. A Memorial Service will be held at the Mountain View Evangelical Missionary Church of Didsbury, 14 Km East of Didsbury on 582, on Sunday, January 16, 2011 at 2:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you make a donation to a local food bank.

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Didsbury Gymnastics Club

DGC is offering a session of gymnastics for kids aged 18 months and up. The twelve week session will be held on Wednesday evenings at the Ross Ford School gym from February 2 to April 27.



Registration Night will be held at Westglen School on Wednesday, January 12 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. If you are unable to attend, please contact Wendy at wfbauer@hotmail.com or phone 403-335-3763 to register or for more information.

5110. Houses For Rent

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100. Obituaries

BAMBRICK

Elizabeth Lucille (Easton) Bambrick, in her 99th year, passed away peacefully December 21, 2010 with her family at her side. As a longtime resident of Unit 4 of the Didsbury Health Care Centre, the Staff there became her close friends, looked after her wonderfully, and enjoyed her quick wit. With her dear friends, Barb McClean, Lorraine Aarsby and all the Recreation Department she was able to take in an incredible amount of activities and trips. The family will be forever indebted to these ladies for the light they brought to Gran's life. Elizabeth Lucille Easton was born in Lethbridge, Alberta on April 17, 1912. She spent one of her high school years in Scotland and, returning home, she went into retail sales. Lucille married Charles Edward (Ted) Bambrick January 22, 1938. Their daughter, Ruth, was born in July, 1939, and her sister Diane in March of 1942. In 1946, Ted decided to move to Nelson, BC. On a previous trip he had fallen in love with the Kootenays. Lucille was not as thrilled with the move but made the most of it, eventually going back into retail sales there. In 1959, Ted became a partner in Kootenay Lake Motors in Creston, BC, and the move there brought him to where he really wanted to be, (and brought Lucille back a little closer to Lethbridge), and she became active as always with the Rebekah Lodge, ladies' bowling and curling, and also the Hospital Auxiliary. Ted passed away after a stroke in 1988, and, after a stay with Diane and family in Victoria, B.C., Lucille came back to her beloved Alberta; staying at the Chinook Lodge in Carstairs, and then moving to Unit 4 in Didsbury. The family cannot begin to thank the entire staff there for the wonderful care and the fun and pleasure they brought to Mom's life.

Lucille and Ted are survived by Ruth and Alan Hahn; Hilary Hahn and Chris and Zoe Montgomery; Chris, Cheryl, Dexter and Roxanne Hahn of Cremona; her grandsons on Vancouver Island (Lorry, Greg, and Stephen Huisman); and, in Victoria, her grandson and family; Mark, Sandy, and Alexandra Huisman; and also many nieces and nephews. Lucille was predeceased by her daughter, Mary Diane Bambrick Huisman in 1996. A Celebration Tea for the Staff of Unit 4, the Recreational Team, the Hospital Staff & Doctors, the fellow residents of Unit 4, and family and friends will be held in the Assembly Room, Unit 4, Didsbury Hospital on January 14, 2011 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. A Memorial Service will be held in Unit 4, on January 27, 2011 at 2 p.m.

1070. Child Care

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